

Article 24

NON-DISCRIMINATION

The Employer will continue its policy against all forms of illegal discrimination including discrimination with regard to sex, age, disability, race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, or partisan considerations. In addition, the Employer agrees not to discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation or genetic information that is unrelated to the person's ability to perform the duties of a particular job or position.

The Union will continue its policy to admit all persons otherwise eligible to membership and to represent all members without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, disability, age, political belief or genetic information that is unrelated to the person's ability to perform the duties of a particular job or position.

The parties agree to treat each other with dignity and respect. As individuals employed in a class, employees will be entitled to equal pay for essentially equivalent work.

There shall be no discrimination, interference, restraint, or coercion by the Employer against any member because of MCO membership, nor shall the Union engage in such prohibited activity against a non-member because of any activity permissible under Federal or State Constitution, the Civil Service Rules and Regulations, or this Agreement.

This Article is not intended, nor shall it be construed, to alter, diminish or abridge the non-discrimination, equal employment opportunity, or affirmative action policies and rules of the State of Michigan, employing departments or the Michigan Civil Service Commission.

This Article shall not, however, be interpreted as a waiver by the Union of its rights to challenge the constitutionality of any Civil Service Rules and Regulations.

Sexual harassment is expressly prohibited. No person shall subject an employee to sexual harassment during the course of employment in the state classified service. The Employer will make all reasonable efforts to prevent sexual harassment. When allegations of sexual harassment are made, the Employer will investigate them and, if substantiated, take corrective action.

For the purposes of this policy, sexual harassment is unwanted conduct of a sexual nature which adversely affects another person's conditions of employment and/or employment environment. Such harassment includes, but is not limited to:

- a. Repeated or continuous conduct which is sexually degrading or demeaning to another person.
- b. Conduct of a sexual nature which adversely affects another person's continued employment, wage, advancement, tenure, assignment of duties, work shift or other conditions of employment.
- c. Conduct of a sexual nature that is accompanied by a threat, either expressed or implied, that continued employment, wages, advancement, tenure, assignment of duties, work shift, or other employment conditions may be adversely affected.